

COLOMBIAN COAST FOOTHOLD SOUGHT

No Doubt of German Plans in Latin America.

OFFICER OF NAVY CONFIRMS RUMOR

Despite Official Denials, It Is Known That Kaiser Is Using Colombia's Hatred of United States to Further His Power and Influence.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Washington, March 24.—Additional light on Germany's efforts to strengthen still further her influence and her position in South and Central America, and especially along the Colombian coast, is cast by the statement of a high naval officer, who recently returned from Central America after passing several months there on confidential business for the Navy Department.

This officer's attention had already been called to the information published a fortnight ago of the negotiations between Germany and Colombia for the lease or sale of certain harbors on Colombia's Atlantic coast, and of the coincident emphatic revival at Washington of Colombia's claim for a heavy indemnity from the United States for the alleged "rape of Panama."

All Confirmation Necessary. "You have had all the confirmation that you could have had without admission from the President of the United States, the President of Colombia and the German Emperor," was his comment on the revelations, which both the German and Colombian governments have seen fit to dignify with official denials.

This officer, who is one of the most level-headed as well as one of the most experienced in the navy, pointed out the importance of that government's activities in American waters in terms which leave nothing of their significance when taken in connection with the statement sent out by the Associated Press from Washington last Friday night, that the prime purpose of Secretary Knox's trip to Latin America is said to have been "to lay the foundation for closer relations between the United States and Latin America to anticipate any possible European aggression in commerce or diplomacy."

"I know," he said, "that the Colombian matter is receiving the most serious consideration now, and that it has received grave consideration on the part of the United States government for some months."

"Did you while in Central America gather information to the effect that Germany and Colombia have been treating for the sale or lease of certain Colombian harbors to Germany?" he was asked.

"It is undoubtedly true," was the reply. "That any of the leading European nations would be glad to gain a foothold on the coast lines of the Western Hemisphere if they thought the United States could be caught in a position in which she would be unable to uphold the Monroe Doctrine. There are certainly several ports in Colombian territory which would be particularly valuable to Germany."

"Does it not seem pointed that Secretary Knox has gone to South and Central America just at this time?" was another question. He replied:

"I will say that the State Department is not likely to admit the exact mission on which he has gone, and again I will venture the assertion that the President of the United States is the only man who would feel at liberty to explain the exact nature of that mission, and he would scarcely give an explanation, I imagine."

Ospina Not Responsible. Making at this point the statement already quoted as to the grave consideration which our government had for several months been given to the Colombian matter, he added:

"The Ospina incident really had no effect upon Mr. Knox's trip South, for, as a matter of fact, that incident was occasioned by the announcement that our Secretary of State was on the point of making the trip."

"The principal effect of the Ospina incident, it seems to me, was to introduce the actual feeling between the United States and Colombia to the public. Before that time it was generally known that Colombia was asking for a large sum of money, and that she was demanding it. It was not even known generally before the Ospina incident that Colombia had proposed that the matter be taken to the Hague for settlement."

"Do you think that the United States is liable to allow the proposition to go to the Hague?"

"The government will not allow anything of that sort to go to the Hague unless the United States is in a position to show that its action in connection with the Panama rebellion was absolutely open and above board. Just what our government can do in this respect is more than I can say now."

From this question the conversation returned to Germany's negotiations with Colombia.

"I cannot tell you what I learned while I was in Central America," he said. "It would be wrong for me to tell you that I verified the report that Germany has negotiated with Colombia for the lease or sale of certain harbors on the coast, and to-day is one of the most progressive nations. She has been progressive for a score of years, and if you are a student you will see that she has reason to seek new territory in the Western Hemisphere."

Comparative Naval Power. When the subject of comparative power of the German and United States navies was brought up, this naval officer advanced an entirely new thought on comparison. He said: "It is an interesting study, this naval history. Some of the smaller nations

LAWRENCE STRIKE IS DECLARED OFF

Leaders Believe Its Purpose Has Been Accomplished.

WAGE INCREASE FOR THOUSANDS

Consumer Will Pay the Increase in Higher Price of Goods—New Bedford Now Becomes Trouble Centre, Where Employers Have Refused Demands of Operatives.

Boston, Mass., March 24.—The great Lawrence strike, which brought in its train increased wages for 275,000 textile workers in New England, was officially declared off at all the mills in Lawrence today, having accomplished its purpose, in the opinion of the leaders.

In this connection it is generally believed, too, that advances in wages or reduction in hours to paper mill employees, bagging and burlap workers, machinists and operatives in other industries are all traceable, directly or indirectly, to the movement which had its origin in Lawrence.

The total number of persons thus to be benefited is upward of 200,000. Advances in the price of woolen and cotton goods, which have been made of which are in prospect, will probably place upon the ultimate consumer much of the burden of the additional cost to the textile manufacturers. This will aggregate between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000 during the next year, it is estimated. Mill agents in announcing advances in prices, have frankly stated that the upward trend is the result of wage advances.

Prices Are Increasing. The rise in the price of cotton goods announced up to today is comparatively small—a fraction of a cent a yard in most cases—but selling agents predict that the net advance to the retailer may ultimately reach 2 cents a yard. Some increased prices also have been quoted on woolen goods, and dealers freely predict higher prices for the near future.

New Bedford, where the manufacturers of the finer grades of cotton goods have refused to accede to the demands of their employees for an additional 5 per cent, has displaced Lawrence as the centre of interest in the textile situation. Unless the mill owners give the increase demanded within a few days, it is feared a strike of from 25,000 to 30,000 operatives will follow. While an increase of 5 per cent has been offered, the New Bedford operatives are insistent that they receive 10 per cent.

Secretary Devoll, of the Manufacturers' Association, has promised them that the mill owners will decide early in the week whether this will be granted.

Dan Is Lifted. Lawrence, Mass., March 24.—"The end" was written officially to-day upon the records of the long-standing strike of textile workers. After conducting for ten weeks the fight of the mill workers against the mill owners and securing increased wages and improved working conditions all around, the strike committee voted to-day to lift the ban on the half-dozen mills against which the strike was still in effect. The strike thus being declared ended, the strike committee voted itself out of existence.

The return of the children, nearly 200 of whom are now in homes in New York, Philadelphia and Barre, Vt., where they were sent during the strike, was arranged for next Saturday. At that time a demonstration is planned, including a big parade, in which the children will participate.

Leaders of the Industrial Workers of the World, including William D. Haywood, William E. Trautman and William Yates, will leave within a few days for other fields. They declared to-night in separate statements that the Lawrence strike had achieved "one great, grand victory, far-reaching in results, which will always be remembered."

TYPHOON IS DISASTROUS

Vessels Are Dashed to Pieces and Buildings Wrecked.

North, Western Australia, March 24.—A disastrous typhoon has occurred on the northwest coast of Western Australia. It continued from Wednesday until Friday and extended far inland. Many vessels were dashed to pieces on the rocks, numerous buildings have been wrecked and it is believed a large number of vessels lost. The total extent of the damage is not known, as telegraphic communication is badly interrupted.

Bureau Promises Fair Weather

Washington, March 24.—Fair weather over the greater part of the country, with temperature near or slightly below the seasonal average during the next several days, is promised by the Weather Bureau in a bulletin to-night.

"Rain or snow is probable, however," says the bulletin, "on Monday in the North Atlantic States and the extreme upper Ohio Valley. The next disturbance of importance to cross the country will appear in the far West Tuesday and Wednesday, cross the Middle West Wednesday or Thursday and the Atlantic States near the close of the week. This disturbance will be preceded and attended by a general rise in temperature and local rains in Southern and middle sections in Northern States, and followed by considerably colder weather, which will appear in the Northwestern States Thursday or Friday."

Comparative Naval Power. When the subject of comparative power of the German and United States navies was brought up, this naval officer advanced an entirely new thought on comparison. He said: "It is an interesting study, this naval history. Some of the smaller nations

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FEDERAL POWER HELD PARAMOUNT

State and Interstate Commerce Must Be on Equal Footing.

FAR-REACHING DECISION GIVEN

Lines Between States Are Wiped Out So Far as Making of Rates Is Concerned—Minority Holds That Commission Has Transcended Its Authority.

Washington, March 24.—The Interstate Commerce Commission, in an opinion made public to-day, established the far-reaching principle that a railroad must so adjust its rates that justice will be done between communities, regardless of State lines. If a railroad makes a low rate upon traffic wholly within the State, even when forced to do so by a State commission, it must avoid the same rates to the interstate traffic moving under substantially similar conditions.

The principle was laid down by a vote of four to three. The minority held that the powers of Congress were usurped by the majority opinion, and that the remedy for such a situation should be applied through additional legislation. The decision was in the case of the Railroad Commission of Louisiana against the St. Louis and Northwestern Railway and other carriers operating between Louisiana and Texas.

Federal Power Supreme. The case practically precipitated a conflict between Federal and State authority over the control of interstate traffic. The opinion of the majority of the Interstate Commerce Commission, prepared and handed down by Commissioner Lane, is a definite assertion of the supremacy of national regulatory authority over the powers exercised by any State. It is the first time that the commission has made distinctly by the commission. In making it, Chairman Prouty and Commissioner Clark and Meyer concurred with Commissioner Lane, and Commissioners Clements, Harlan and McChord dissented.

The proceeding brought by the Louisiana Commission placed in issue the right of interstate carriers to discriminate in favor of the State traffic and against interstate traffic.

The gravamen of the complaint," the opinion says, "is that the carriers of the Texas Railroad Commission discriminate in favor of the State traffic and against interstate traffic. The carriers of the Texas Railroad Commission discriminate in favor of the State traffic and against interstate traffic. The carriers of the Texas Railroad Commission discriminate in favor of the State traffic and against interstate traffic."

Contentious Are Upheld. The low rate within the State of Texas was forced upon the railroads by the Texas Railroad Commission in furtherance of a policy to protect and promote the jobbing interests of Texas. The Louisiana commission and the Interstate Commerce Commission declared that Louisiana was being discriminated against because of the action of the higher rates of the Texas Railroad Commission, and demanded an adjustment of the rates. The commission of Louisiana was sustained by the commission absolutely. The majority held:

"That the present class rates from Shreveport to Texas points were unreasonable and prescribed lower rates, which must be put into effect by May 1."

"That the present relation of rates, eastbound and westbound from Shreveport, gives an undue preference to Texas and Houston and other Texas points, and the carriers are ordered to establish the same rates on westbound as on eastbound traffic."

Government Is Paramount. The conclusion of the majority opinion is a vigorous assertion of the paramount authority of the national government over all interstate traffic:

"An interstate carrier must respect the Federal law, and if it is also subjected to State law it must respect that in so far as it can without doing violence to its obligations under the national authority. Before us are carriers which undeniably discriminate directly against interstate traffic. To this charge they plead that all they have done was to obey the orders of a State commission, and against which they were helpless. They appealed to no court for relief, nor to this commission. When the State of Louisiana after years of endurance makes complaint to this body those carriers make no showing of the reasonableness of their rates, but rather that heretofore dealt with—a traffic adjustment—equalizing gateways—and even in this defense all the carriers do not join. The class rates of the Texas commission within the distances herein involved are not too low. This the carriers themselves don't urge. Yet they have maintained higher rates from Shreveport, the interstate point. While the Texas commission has evidenced a policy of home protection for its own State, cities, there is every evidence that the carriers moving into and within Texas, accepted this policy as their own, claiming that not to have adopted it would have led to reprisals on the part of the State authorities. Such conditions may not continue under this act. The interstate carrier

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UNABLE TO STAND SECOND ATTACK

John J. Lynch Dies Suddenly After a Wonderful Rally.

HEART WEAKENED BY OLD ILLNESS

Served Eight Years in Council, and Won Commendation of the Entire City for Able and Honest Work—Picked for Administrative Board.

John J. Lynch, member of the Common Council from Jefferson Ward, died at the Jefferson Hotel last night at 11 o'clock. He was suddenly stricken on Thursday night while attending a dinner given at the Jefferson by Chairman H. R. Pollard, Jr., to the Finance Committee, and for a time his condition was regarded as alarming. By midnight Friday, however, he had rallied to such an extent that he was believed to be out of danger. On Saturday he was still very much improved, his condition at noon yesterday being more encouraging than at any other time since Thursday night. He chatted pleasantly with many of his friends who called to see him, and even talked of returning to his home, at 600 North Twenty-second Street.

Final Attack Was Sudden. Early last night, however, his condition became alarming again, and his physicians were quickly called in. Complications of a serious nature developed, and it was realized that the end was near.

Mr. Lynch was forty-six years old. He was unmarried, and is survived by three sisters, Misses Lucy and Annie Lynch, who were with him when he died, and Sister Gabriella, a Sister of Charity, in St. Louis.

Mr. Lynch had only recently recovered from a severe attack of grip. He pertained his strength in attending to his duties in the Council, and while he felt strong and well, he came to attend the dinner to the Finance Committee, he became ill during the evening, and was quickly removed to a room in the hotel. Dr. P. M. Reade remained with him all night. His sisters were summoned, and it was feared that the attack, which was something like acute indigestion, might prove fatal. He received every possible care and attention, though his system was weakened by his recent illness and he was not able this time to pull through. About a year ago he was seized with a similar illness while walking with friends in Broad Street.

Strong Man of the Council. Long a member of the Council, Mr. Lynch was regarded as one of the ablest, most aggressive and most fearless young men in Richmond. He was a member of the special committee which devised the new system of municipal government, providing for the creation of an administrative board. While he had no public record as a candidate for membership on that board, he had been tried to enter the primary, and had he lived he would have undoubtedly been elected. Because of his remarkable good work on the special committee, he had won the endorsement of the business people.

Mr. Lynch had been a member of the Common Council from Jefferson Ward for eight years. His most active service was on the Street Committee, where he was a vigilant and useful official. His ideas as to what the city needed extended far beyond the borders of his own ward. He was without doubt the most outspoken member of the lower house of the city government. His business life and dealings, he carried the same principle into the Council, and he possessed the ability and the courage which the people realized were so essential in the men elected to manage the affairs of the city under the system which goes into effect the first of next year.

Urged Many Reforms. About a year ago Mr. Lynch succeeded E. Douglas Richardson as chairman of the Committee on Elections, which committee had the complete and initial operation of the election plant. He served on the special committee which investigated the City Engineer's department. He drew the report which recommended a number of changes in that department, and at the last meeting of the committee on Streets he took occasion to speak of the greatly increased efficiency which had come about within the past six or eight months. Along with the changes in the election plant, he fought hard for the four ward plan and for the elimination of old ward lines which had been detrimental to the best interests of the city. His own work had much to do with the final adoption of the two ordinances. In talking only a few days ago with a reporter for The Times-Dispatch, Mr. Lynch said that he had under serious consideration the question of becoming a candidate for the board, "I have been asked by business men to make the race," he said, "but I would not do so without their support." It had always been a source of gratification to him that the business people had warmly commended his work on the special committee.

Expressed Universal View. In 1907, when Dr. Ennion L. Williams, now State Health Commissioner, began a fight in the Council to reform the old system in vogue at the City Home, Mr. Lynch volunteered to help him. "I would rather have your help than that of any man I know," Dr. Williams told him. Just the other day Dr. Williams said that he had wanted Mr. Lynch's career in the Council and he knew of no official with a cleaner record. That was the universal view. Mr. Lynch was connected with the Hasler & Marcus branch of the American Can Company, on Church Hill. He was a member of many social and fraternal orders, and his popularity, especially in the East End, was not confined within the borders of the ward. He made a remarkable name for himself in the Council, winning the

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DEATH CLAIMS COUNCILMAN



JOHN J. LYNCH.

MANY DARK PLACES RECEIVING LIGHT ARE CONFLICTING

Few Things Have Escaped an Investigation by This Congress.

RESULTS STILL IN DOUBT

Committees Are Getting Ready to Report on Their Inquisitorial Labors.

Washington, March 24.—Since the Democrats came into control of the House last spring, Congress has been an investigating Congress. Aside from inquiries into government departments, special inquiries have been made, most notable among them those into the United States Steel Corporation and the American Sugar Refining Company.

The steel inquiry, conducted by a special committee headed by Representative Stanley, of Kentucky, has been under way nearly a year, and may close this week. The report probably will be made by May. It will be a series of recommendations. One of them is almost certain to be that large corporations such as United States Steel, should not own nor control common carriers.

The inquiry into the Sugar Refining Company, by a committee headed by Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, closed some time ago, and while the report recommended no legislation, the data contained was used by Democratic leaders in framing the free sugar bill which has passed the House, and is now up to the Senate.

Getting Under Way. Investigations into the money trust and the shipping combine are about to get under way. The first has been divided into two sections. Representative Pujo, of Louisiana, will head a committee to investigate the money trust, and a subcommittee headed by Representative Glass, of Virginia, will study the Aldrich plan of currency reform. No public hearings may be held for some time.

The inquiry into the shipping combine by the Committee on Merchant Marine will begin probably within the next week.

The Rules Committee this week will take up conditions at the Lawrence mill strike, which were the subject of public hearings recently and may order an inquiry into the affairs of the American Woolen Company. Another hearing which has been going on concerns the circumstances under which the United States took over the Panama Canal strip and the demands of Colombia that her claims for damages be submitted to the House.

In the Department of Agriculture, the Florida everglades land charges have been a red. A report from that committee is expected by June 1. It was charged that the department was influenced in its reports on the everglades by land speculators.

A resolution proposing an investigation of the baseball trust will be taken up by the Rules Committee this week. The general feeling is that it will be reported adversely.

Of all the House standing committees, which have been investigating government departments since last summer, none has made a report. The War Department committee's investigation of the alleged political activities of Major Beecher B. Ray is still in progress. The State Department Committee, headed by Representative Tillman, of Missouri, is planning recommendations to change the department's system of accounting.

In the Senate an inquiry by the Interstate Commerce Committee into the trust problem is expected to result in recommendations for legislation to supplement the Sherman law.

Election Inquiries Ended. Special inquiries into the rights of Senator Stephenson, of Wisconsin, and Senator Lorimer, of Illinois, to their seats have been ended. Senator Stephenson's case will come up in the Senate to-morrow and probably will

TIRELESS SEARCH FOR DESPERADOES IS ALMOST ENDED

Little Longer Can They Escape Capture by Detectives.

THREE DOOMED; ONE HAS ESCAPED

Claude Swanson Allen Has Gone Across Border and May Never Be Caught, but Remainder of Gang Will Be Behind Prison Bars Within Few Days.

BY ALEXANDER FORWARD. Hillsville, Va., March 24.—Three of the Allen gang certainly will be captured; one has flown. Sida Allen, the grim-faced individual of forty-six, accompanied by two nephews, Wesley Edwards, a youth of twenty, and Friel Allen, son of Jasper ("Jack") Allen, have been tracked on the south side of the Blue Ridge so closely that their chances of escape are only one in ten. Claude Swanson Allen is gone.

This is the status to-night of the mountain search for the Allen gang, who fell upon the Carroll county court house on March 14, and exacted toll of five killed and two wounded. Leaders of the detective force which has been spread over the Blue Ridge for nearly a fortnight admitted that to be the case, and likewise stated that Claude Allen, the twenty-year-old son of Floyd Allen, now in a Roanoke jail awaiting trial for murder, has disappeared over the North Carolina border and may never be nabbed.

hope they'll all surrender—they haven't got chance," muttered Sida Edwards, badly-to-day as he lay in bed at Roanoke from Galax, accompanied by Sergeant White, of the State militia, and Thomas L. Felts and Albert H. Baldwin, of the Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency, who were placed in charge of the posse by Carroll county.

Spends Night at Felts's Home. Edwards had spent the night at the beautiful home of Tom Felts, at Blair, a couple of miles from Galax. He slept on the third floor of the house, which was guarded. In a thoughtless moment, according to the detectives, Edwards made reference to his revolver, and that he had fired some shots. Hitherto he had maintained that he was unarmed, although grand jury witnesses are granted to have testified that Edwards emerged from the courthouse with his gun smoking and handed it to Floyd Allen so the latter might continue his pistol duel with Clerk Dexter Goad from behind the Confederate monument that rises below the courthouse.

Edwards limped as he boarded the train. A small crowd gathered at the railroad station. Edwards smiled and nodded, especially to the fair sex. And there was a throng at each of the stops along the way. Fair-haired girls clustered about the train, and the youths of the towns, all anxious to catch a glimpse of the sturdy prisoner. Edwards leaned from the train window and waved to all. He seemed to enjoy it all and appeared unmindful of the days behind the bars which would attend him or the gravity which will attend his trial for murder.

Once a relative of Henry Allen, a peace officer at Blytheby, 20: aboard. The two men surveyed each other silently, and Allen said: "I'm sorry you are in such a bad scrape, my lad."

"Yes," replied Edwards, meekly, "and I hate to be in it. I just couldn't help it."

Along the way a Times-Dispatch correspondent accompanied him. Edwards again declared his innocence of wrongdoing.

Had Hard Time. "I had a hard time of it," he said. "For two weeks I had been in bed with pneumonia, and they all dragged me out to come to court to be a witness in Uncle Floyd's trial. I wish now I hadn't gone. The shooting began all of a sudden, and the room was filled with smoke in a second, and I was flying from one side to the other like lightning. I got out as fast as I could. I ran away, but I heard they would all shoot us on sight. I slept in barns and hid in the fodder, but I knew I was caught, some days ago. They could have arrested me much easier."

Detective Thomas L. Felts and Albert H. Baldwin confirmed his statement that capture could have been accomplished sooner, explaining that their purpose was to follow Edwards about in case he attempted to join the other outlaws.

Edwards is confident that the Allen gang, still in the mountains will be caught. Having spent the week in dodging, he said, he ought to know. Detective Tom Felts declared it was hard to realize the difficulties of trapping the outlaws. There are dozens of shelving rocks and ledges underneath which the fugitives could hide, making a dash from one place to another at night. The posse has been clamoring on the heels of the Allen gang, and it is only a matter of a few days now when they will be caught.

Numerous bits of evidence indicating the trail of the fugitives are in possession of the posse. In a number of places, he said, he had seen the tracks of the outlaws. He said that he had seen the tracks of the outlaws. He said that he had seen the tracks of the outlaws.

It was not known until to-day that "Jack" Allen was under surveillance. He consented to such an arrangement, because of the profusion of detectives, horsebouts and the likelihood other-

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Confederate Veteran Heir to Spanish Throne

Macon, Ga., March 24.—The death of John S. De Montmolin, a Confederate veteran, here yesterday morning, has thrown into doubt the claim that he was the heir to the Spanish throne. The papers, which were secreted in De Montmolin's house on the Ocmulgee River, are said to be of such convincing character that at one time the then head of Cambridge University, England, went so far as to offer to equip a war party to invade Spain in an effort to seat the American claimant.

De Montmolin claimed he should have become King when Alfonso, father of the present monarch, became his heir. The documents show several communications from Alfonso XIII. in relation to the claim. They also show an offer of a large sum of money from General Weyler to head a filibustering expedition from Cuba, but De Montmolin refused to consider the offer. The American claimant was seventy-four years old, and was born in Savannah, Ga. He was a marine engineer by profession, but for some years had led a secluded life.

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